

Message Text

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S/ S- O: K. KURZE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

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STADIS//////////

FOR ASST SECY SISCO

FOL TEL SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM JIDDA 20 APR 73 REPEATED:

QUOTE JIDDA 1617

STADIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SA

SUBJ: CINCEUR VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST

SUMMARY. IN MESSAGE ATTACHED EMBASSY PROPOSES CERTAIN
SUCCINCT IDEAS WHICH MIGHT BE UTTERED BY GENERAL GOODPASTER
DURING HIS VISIT HERE. IN THIS WAY WE CAN PERHAPS TAKE
SOME ADVANTAGE VISIT BY HIGHEST- LEVEL USG FIGURE TO COME TO
SAUDI ARABIA FOR MANY MONTHS, WHO ARRIVING AT TIME OF CON-
SIDERABLE UNEASINESS US- ARAB RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. FORTHCOMING VISIT OF CINCEUR GEN ANDREW GOODPASTER
(APRIL 30) PROVIDES IT SEEMS TO US USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR
KING FAISAL AND OTHERS TO HEAR VIGOROUS REAFFIRMATION US
INTEREST IN AND SUPPORT FOR POLICIES AND COURSES OF ACTION
AIMED ASSISTING SAUDIS COPE WITH THREATS TO THEIR SECURITY.

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WE WOULD NOT PLAN GET GOODPASTER INTO COMPLEX, LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS ON MATTERS WITH WHICH HE NOT FULLY FAMILIAR. FACT IS, HOWEVER, THAT OVER PAST 18 MONTHS WE HAVE HAD NO RPT NO HIGH- LEVEL USG VISITORS AND IT BEHOOVES US ENDEAVOR SECURE WHATEVER ADVANTAGE WE CAN FROM PRESENCE PERSONALITY WITH SUCH HIGH- LEVEL USG CONNECTIONS, PARTICULARLY AT MOMENT OF CONSIDERABLE UNEASINESS IN US- ARAB RELATIONS, BY ENCOURAGING GOODPASTER UTTER SOME SUCCINCT, POSITIVE THOUGHTS FOR SAUDI EDIFICATION. WITHOUT A LITTLE MANAGEMENT OF THIS KIND, GOODPASTER TALKS (AS WE KNOW FROM EXPERIENCE WITH OTHER MILITARY FIGURES NOT THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR SAUDI ARABIA) CAN WANDER OFF INTO TRIVIALITIES, OR IN CASE OF KIN LONG LECTURE ON LATTER' S FAVORITE SUBJECT.

2. WE PROPOSE THEREFORE TO ENCOURAGE GENERAL TO SAY:

A. AS FAR AS US CONCERNED THERE IS VIGOROUS DESIRE FOR CONTINUATION STRONG FRIENDLY TIES WHICH HAVE FOR SO MANY YEARS CHARACTERIZED OUR RELATIONSHIP. THERE IS CONTINUED WARM RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR STATESMANSHIP AND LEADERSHIP OF KING FAISAL, AND FOR IMPRESSIVE, PROGRESSIVE FASHION IN WHICH COUNTRY' S GREAT NATURAL WEALTH IS BEING USED FOR BENEFIT OF ITS PEOPLE.

B. GENERAL CAN SAY HE IS HAPPY REAFFIRM ALSO GROWING USG INTEREST IN WORKING WITH SAUDI ARABIA TO HELP STRENGTHEN NORTH YEMEN MILITARILY, ON LINES AMBASSADOR HAS DISCUSSED WITH PRINCE SULTAN. THERE IS WARM INTEREST IN WASHINGTON IN THESE ENDEAVORS AT HIGHEST LEVELS AND WE WISH STAY IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH SAUDIS ON THIS MATTER. (IF KING PUSHES FOR GREATER US FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION, WE MIGHT ENCOURAGE GOODPASTER SAY SIMPLY THAT WHILE HE NOT IN POSITION COMMENT ON SUCH POSSIBILITIES, HE CAN SAY ENORMOUS US TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS AS WELL AS PROMPT AVAILABILITIES OF MATERIAL ARE BEING BROUGHT INTO PLAY IN SUPPORT THIS OBJECTIVE.)

C. WE MIGHT ENCOURAGE GENERAL TO SUPPORT ALSO IDEA OF REGIONAL COOPERATION. WE RECOGNIZE THERE HAVE BEEN DIFFERENCES IN PAST BETWEEN STATES OF PERSIAN GULF AREA, BUT WE HOPEFUL THESE MAY BE RESOLVED IN FUTURE IN ORDER PRESENT COMMON FRONT TO MENACE FROM SOUTH.

D. WE WOULD NOT, OF COURSE, SUGGEST THAT GOODPASTER MENTION EITHER TERRORISM OR OIL. HOWEVER, SHOULD KING BRING THEM UP, THEN IN CASE OF FORMER GOODPASTER COULD SIMPLY STATE SUCCINCTLY WE BELIEVE THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE

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FOR SUPPRESSION OF TERROR BUT FIRM OPPOSITION TO IT FROM

ANY AND ALL SOURCES. RE OIL GOODPASTER MIGHT MAKE LIMITED COMMENT TO EFFECT THAT IN FACE OF WIDESPREAD RADICAL THREAT FREE WORLD IS INDIVISIBLE AND WHAT WEAKENS ONE PART OF IT HAS TENDENCY WEAKEN WHOLE. THUS IT IMPORTANT FOR CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS TO WORK OUT DIFFERENCES-- AS POINTED OUT BY PRESIDENT NIXON-- IN COOPERATIVE MANNER RATHER THAN IN ONE INVOLVING CONFRONTATION.

E. AS FOLLOW- UP TO AMBASSADOR' S LATEST DISCUSSIONS WITH MODA PRINCE SULTAN RE YAR REARMING, BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL ALSO FOR GENERAL TO MENTION TO SULTAN VALUE WE ATTACH TO YAR RECEIVING AT LEAST SOME TOKEN ASSISTANCE FROM SAG IN VERY NEAR FUTURE. (WE FEAR WE WILL HAVE TO KEEP UP THIS LITANY IN ORDER PREVENT SAG RESPONSE FROM BOGGING DOWN IN DILATORY PROCLIVITIES OF GEN KABBANI.)

3. FOREGOING SEEMS ALMOST ENOUGH FOR GENERAL TO ENCOMPASS IN TAKING POSITIVE ADVANTAGE HIS VISIT HERE, BUT IF DEPARTMENT HAS OTHER POINTS IT THINKS SHOULD BE INCLUDED WE WILL PRESENT THEM IN THE BRIEFING MEMO TO BE GIVEN GENERAL ON ARRIVAL.

THACHER UNQUOTE PORTER

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